

REMARKS

To expedite prosecution, Claims 1-11 and 35 have been canceled without prejudice.

Claims 22, 25-28, 37, the remaining pending claims, have been allowed.

As to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

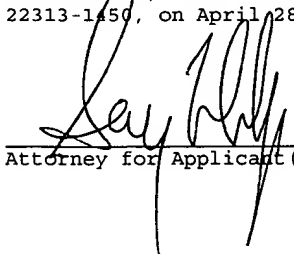
In this Amendment, claims have been canceled without prejudice to expedite prosecution. Therefore, entry of this Amendment requires neither consideration of new issues nor a new search. Further, this Amendment places the application in a condition for allowance. Therefore, entry of this Amendment is appropriate under rule 116.

Conclusion

Claims 22, 25-28, 37 are pending in the application. For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of all pending claims. If the Examiner has any questions relating to the above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned Attorney for Applicant(s).

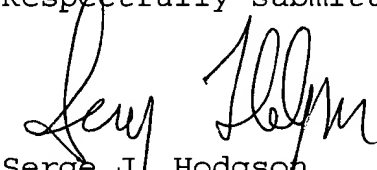
**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 28, 2004.

  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

April 28, 2004  
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

  
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